

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method of emulating the functions performed by a set-top box to display an enhanced video stream on a computer, said enhanced video stream includes, a combination of video content and interactive content comprising:

generating a layout file that provides time based actions that are applied to said video content and said interactive content;

applying a set of rules to said layout file that produce instructions that emulate the functionality of a set-top box when applied to a browser;

examining said interactive content to select a color that is not being used by said interactive content;

assigning said color as a transparent color;

locating said video content in said enhanced video stream to generate video content location data;

setting portions of said enhanced content corresponding to said video content location data as said transparent color.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising;

accessing various portions of said layout file in a random fashion to check proper layout of said layout file and make modifications.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising;

Publishing said enhanced video stream after said layout file has been checked and modified.

4. A system for emulating the functions of a set-top box to display an enhanced video stream on a computer that includes a combination of video content and interactive content comprising:

interactive television producer code that is capable of generating said enhanced video stream;

a storage device coupled to receive said enhanced video stream from said interactive producer code and store a video file;

emulation code that generates a layout file, applies a set of rules to said layout file that produce instructions that emulate the functionality of a set-top box when applied to a browser, examines interactive content in said layout file to select a color not being used, sets said selected color to be transparent in said interactive content, locates video content in said layout file and generates video content layout data and sets portions of said enhanced content that corresponds to said video content layout data to be transparent.

5. A storage medium containing emulation code that emulates the functions performed by a set-top box to display an enhanced video stream on a computer, said enhanced video stream including a combination of video content and interactive content, said emulation code performing the following functions:

generating a layout file that provides time based actions that are applied to said video content and said interactive content;

applying a set of rules to said layout file that produce instructions that emulate the functionality of a set-top box when applied to a browser;

examining said interactive content to select a color that is not being used by said interactive content;

assigning said color as a transparent color;

locating said video content in said enhanced video stream to generate video content location data;

setting portions of said enhanced content corresponding to said video content location data as said transparent color.